(b) what is the impact on the house building activity particularly on the low income group and middle income group of the increase in the rate of lands to be sold to the Cooperative Group Housing Societies, by DDA; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to contain the rising prices of land in Delhi and other inputs to give an impetus to the Cooperative Housing Societies?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Rs. 100/- per sq. mtr.

(b) and (c). DDA charges predetermined rate for allotment of land to Cooperative Group Housing Societies which is fixed from time to time on 'no profit no loss' basis. There is no evidence to indicate that this rate is so high as to inhibit Cooperative Group Housing Societies from seeking allotment of land from DDA.

Pantry Cars attached to Mail|Superfast Express Trains

1267. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pantry cars attached to Mail|Superfast|Express trains zone-wise as on date;

(b) the total number of staff working in these cars; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to attach pantry cars to some more Mail|Superfast| Express trains, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The number of pantry cars attached to Mail|Express|Superfast trains are as under :

Railway	No. of Pantry Cars
Central	6
Eastern	14
Northern	23
North Eastern . .	11
Northeast Frontier . .	24
Southern	32
South Central . . .	5
South Eastern . . .	31
Western	27

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Yes, Sir. During this year.

Wholesale, consumer, working class price index

1268. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any downward trend in wholesale, consumer, working-class price index since December, 1989;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the causes for such trend?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) There has been a downward trend in the All-India Consumer Price Index for industrial workers on base 1982-100 since December, 1989. However, there has not been any downward trend in the wholesale price index since December, 1989.

(b) From a level of 176 in November, 1989 the All-India Consumer Price Index

for industrial workers on base 1982-100 declined to 175 in December, 1989 and to 174 in January, 1990.

(c) The decline in the All India Consumer Price Index for industrial workers during the months of December, 1989 and January, 1990 was mainly due to seasonal decline in the prices of Vegetables and Fruits and also of Cereals and Products, Pulses and Products, Condiments and Spices.

1269. [Transferred to the 28th March, 1990].

Accommodation to Government employees in Vithalbhai Patel House

1270. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some Government employees have been allotted accommodation in Vithalbhai Patel House;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for providing accommodation to those Government employees;

(d) since when the Government employees are occupying the same; and

(e) whether most of these Government employees have their own houses in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a), (b) and (d) Yes, Sir. Details are attached in the form of a statement [*See* Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 51].

(c) They were allotted accommodation in V.P. House when the suites in V.P. House were not very popular with M.Ps.

(e) Out of the above 4 persons, two own houses in Delhi.

Proposal for linking Dindigul and Madras Central via Tiruchirappalli Villupuram and Madras-Egmore by B.G. Line

1271. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to link Dindigul and Madras Central Railway Stations *via* Villupuram and Madras Egmore by Broad Gauge railways;

(b) if so, by when the same are likely to be linked; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir. However, Dindigul and Madras Central are already linked by a BG route via Karur, Erode, Jollarpettai and Katpadi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Tiruchirappalli, Villupuram and Madras Egmore stations are on the metre gauge trunk route in Southern India and there is no proposal to convert the route into BG.

Consumption of fertilizers

1272. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the annual consumption of Chemical Fertilizers in the country during the years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) the quantity of the above met by indigenous production as well as by import;

(c) what was the value of the fertilizers imported during the above period;

(d) what was the provision of subsidy for distribution of fertilizers in the country during the above period;

(e) what was the economic viability of each of the Public Sector and Cooperative Sector Fertilizer Corporation during the last three years; and

(f) what are the steps proposed to be taken by Government to put the loss incurring Corporations on the profit tracks?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c) The estimated annual consumption of fertilizers in the country during the years 1987-88, 1988-89 ad 1989-90, indigenous